

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: KE, MZ, SREF

SUBJECT: MOZAMBICAN REFUGEES IN KENYA

REF: A. NAIROBI 10672; B. STATE 237186

1. JAN VAN HOOGSTATEN, DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE PROGRAM OF CHURCH WORLD SERVICE, HAS SENT FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION TO SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY, CHAIRMAN OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES AND ESCAPEES OF SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE:

QUOTE SUBJECT: FORCIBLE REPATRIATION OF MOZAMBICAN FROM KENYA TO MOZAMBIQUE

WE, IN CHURCH WORLD SERVICE, WISH TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING:

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1. SINCE THE TAKE-OVER BY SAMORA MACHEL IN MOZAMBIQUE,

THE PRESSURE HAS INCREASED ON AFRICAN COUNTRIES STILL HAVING MOZAMBIQUE REFUGEES TO RETURN THEM TO MOZAMBIQUE FOR PURPOSES OF RE-EDUCATION, A PROCESS WHICH CAN AND DOES RANGE FROM POLITICAL RE-EDUCATION A LA SAMORA MACHEL ALL THE WAY TO TORTURE AND EXECUTION.

2. PRESENTLY, THERE ARE SOME 400 MOZAMBICAN REFUGEES LEFT IN KENYA. ON OCTOBER 7, 1976 THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA (GOK) INFORMED THE JOINT REFUGEE SERVICES OF KENYA TO INFORM IN TURN ALL MOZAMBICAN REFUGEES THAT 29 NAMED REFUGEES WERE ALLOWED CONTINUED STAY IN KENYA ON REFUGEE STATUS - THE REST, SOME 370, QUOTE SHOULD LEAVE THE COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY. UNQUOTE THOSE, INCLUDING UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE USAMAH T. KADRY, WHO ARE WELL AWARE OF THE FACTS IN THE SITUATION ARE NEVERTHELESS RELUCTANT, FOR OBVIOUS OR NOT SO OBVIOUS, POLITICAL REASONS TO BECOME THE ADVOCATE FOR THESE REFUGEES WHO WERE THEN AS MUCH REFUGEES FROM PORTUGUESE OPPRESSION AS THEY ARE NOW REFUGEES FROM FRELIMO'S POLITICAL DIRECTION.

3. DESPITE REQUESTS TO BE SENT TO MALAWI, MOZAMBIQUE REFUGEE FAMILY FRANCISCO MATIAS, WIFE ESTRELA, DAUGHTER ELIA (11) AND SON CAVIRIA (2) WERE, WITH UNHCR ASSISTANCE, REPATRIATED BY PLANE MARCH 5, 1976 FLIGHT EC 997 FROM NAIROBI TO BEIRA. IT IS NOW KNOWN FROM IMPECCABLE SOURCES WITHIN MOZAMBIQUE THAT HE, FRANCISCO MATIAS, WAS EXECUTED AFTER HIS RETURN FROM NAIROBI.

4. IF KENYA GOVERNMENT INSISTS THAT IT CANNOT RESIST EMBARRASSMENT AND MUST AVOID TROUBLE WITH SAMORA MACHEL REGIME IN MOZAMBIQUE, CANNOT SOME PRESSURE BE PUT ON UNHCR AND GOK TO LET REFUGEES GO TO PORTUGAL UNDER PORTUGUESE LAW 308-A-75, OR OTHERS TO MALAWI OR EVEN SOME ON PAROLE TO THE USA, RATHER THAN BE PARTY TO DOUBTLESS SUFFERING OR WORSE BY GENUINE REFUGEES WHO REFUSE TO BE REPATRIATED VOLUNTARILY?

5. WE NOTE THAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IRC - STERNBERG SENT NOVEMBER 5 CABLE TO PRESIDENT JOMO KENYATTA PLEADING WITH HIM TO PREVENT THIS EXPULSION. WE OURSELVES ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESENTLY INVOLVED TO ASK NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF KENYA AND ALL AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO DO THEIR DIFFICULT BIT, MEANWHILE STRONGEST REPRESENTATION TO UNHCR AND URGENT INQUIRIES FROM US EMBASSY NAIROBI ARE SUGGESTED FOR WHICH WE NEED YOUR DIRECT ASSISTANCE.

REFUGEES THEMSELVES WROTE IN STRONGEST TERMS TO UNHCR GENEVA DATED NOVEMBER 1ST FROM NAIROBI SIGNED BY ALBERTO

DO ROSARIO AND ARMANDO K. DOS SANTOS - P.O. BOX 75937
REQUESTING UNHCR TO ARRANGE FOR CONTINUED ASYLUM IN KENYA
OR THEIR QUOTE REPATRIATION UNQUOTE TO PORTUGAL.

THANK YOU FOR YOR ATPNTION TO THIS MATTER.

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RESPECTFULLY JAN S.F. VAN HOOGSTRATEN, DIRECTOR
IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE PROGRAM END OF QUOTE

2. FOR NAIROBI: EMBASSY REQUESTED TO COMMENT ON
FOREGOING.

3. FOR GENEVA: PLEASE SHARE AND DISCUSS VAN HOOGSTRATEN
COMMUNICATION FULLY WITH UNHCR AND REPORT UNHCR REACTION
AND COMMENTS. KISSINGER

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